

Federal City Performing Arts Association

Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

A regular meeting of the 2002-2003 Board of Directors
2801 M Street, NW, Washington, DC
Wednesday, December 11, 2002

Present

Board: Streit, Benton, Brayton, Reiffer, Baker, Cole, Herman, Ohnmacht, Mahaffey, H. Lewis (by phone)

Staff: D. Bielenberg

Absent: McClelland, Cohen

Guests: Dan Hann and Michael Armentrout (Auction Co-Chairs)

Attendance Note: McGee and Buhrman were supposed to be part of a three-way teleconference (along with Lewis). Unable to connect three, so although available, could not participate.

Call to Order

1) Chairman Streit called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Approval of Minutes

Brayton moved that the Minutes of the Special Meeting of September 18, 2002 be accepted as distributed. Reiffer seconded and motion was carried.

Cole moved that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 23, 2002 be accepted as amended. Ohnmacht seconded and the motion was carried.

Auction

Streit introduced Auction co-chairs Hann and Armentrout. Hann and Armentrout then reviewed their goals for the Auction.

The Auction will be held on Saturday, May 3, 2003 at the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill. The goal is to acquire attractive items, including something like a car. The co-chairs hope to exceed the budget goal to gross \$52,000 and net \$35,000. The plan is to tie this in to the Kentucky Derby by encouraging Derby house parties, with the groups coming to the auction after these parties. A higher attendance is desired - 400 instead of the past year's target of 200, with a \$75 per head admission charge. Armentrout and Hann are looking at this as a new concept - looking forward rather than how it has been done in the past. Most of last year's key volunteers have signed on for this year.

Streit thanked Armentrout and Hann for their hard work on ensuring the success of this year's auction.

Treasurer's Report

The December report was distributed. Overall, we are in excellent shape. Successes include Cabaret ticket sales; Capital Club contributions; and Board contributions. Disappointments include higher than budget expenses for the Retreat, and a reduction in the number of season subscriptions. Warning sign cited was the CD production and manufacturing costs which are over budget.

There was no vote to accept the Treasurer's report as distributed. Board members felt that they could not go through it adequately when it is distributed at the Board meeting. Ohnmacht requested that the Treasurer distribute the report in advance of the meetings.

Executive Director's Report

Bielenberg reported that we have received conditional approval of a \$7,000 grant from the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

The Development Committee will meet this month to discuss individual giving and the Auction.

Capital Club is doing very well. Bielenberg formally thanked, for the record, Joe Vignali and Jerry Lee for hosting Cocktails with the Conductor. Bielenberg also thanked Steve Herman for his matching gift for new Capital Club members. Inspired by this matching program, \$10,000 in new Capital Club gifts were received between September 15 and November 30.

Alan Savada and Will Stevenson will host a major donor (\$1000+) Cultivation Event in their home in February.

Bielenberg continues to pursue a number of companies about sponsorships.

Single ticket sales for the Holiday concert and for the cabaret exceeded projections; subscriptions are behind projections. Early sales for When Pigs Fly are also strong.

The Technology Committee has been meeting and focusing on our databases.

Merchandise sales have been strong.

The Wonneberger Toy Party is scheduled for December 13. Special thanks go to Chuck Carr who has raised over \$3,000 to cover most of the expenses, and to Mike Helgert, Shirley Paul and Kimber White for coordinating many details.

Music Division Report

No report.

Governance Committee

Ohnmacht thanked people for filling out the Survey. After January 1, the committee will have small lunch meetings with candidates for the Board.

Capital Club Report

Baker gave a huge thanks to David Bielenberg and Mark Garcia-Christie, and to Steve Herman for the generous match, which generated much interest.

We are on target for this year's income budget. There are 61 households who contributed last year, but have not yet renewed. Follow up will be made to these 61.

Upcoming activities include: select a Vice Chairman to replace Bob Wonneberger; continue to identify new members; plan for March concert party at Lisner with a 60's theme; assist with the Auction.

Among the successes: outstanding Gala at the Hillwood Museum; added two new levels of giving: Pacesetter (\$2,500) and Guarantor (\$5,000).

Chairman's Report

Critical for each Board member to identify new donors. Streit will identify bigger donors.

Majority of Board approved AXA proposal for Aggressive fund. The Aggressive fund is not necessarily labeled accurately - it is really moderate. The proposal was approved by email. We will proceed with this investment program.

Streit announced sad news. David Akridge has submitted a letter dated December 3, 2002 resigning from the FCPAA Board of Directors. This resignation was the result of new pursuits in his personal and professional life, and did not result from any problems or issues with the Board or the organization.

Streit indicated his disappointment with the lack of participation in the Mimi's Cabaret fundraiser. Many Board members felt that there were too many events of different size in which Board members were asked to participate. Suggestion to focus on one or two big events. For this season, it was agreed that Board member efforts should go to ensuring the success of the Auction.

Streit thanked those who contributed to the instrumentalists. He also discussed the Chorus' appearance at the Kennedy Center Honors salute to Elizabeth Taylor. This appearance has moved the Chorus to a new level. It goes a long way towards making GMCW the Nation's Gay Men's Chorus.

The Chorus is alive and healthy. Twenty five people have already signed up for January auditions.

Adjournment

Cole moved that the meeting be adjourned. Brayton seconded. The motion was carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven J. Herman, Secretary
March 5, 2003